

IN THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A method of monitoring usage of a monitored image output device, comprising:

receiving an electronic mail message transmitted using an Internet protocol, the electronic mail message comprising information related to usage of the monitored image output device;

automatically extracting identifying information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message;

automatically extracting total page count information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message, the total page count information indicating the total number of pages ~~being cumulative over all jobs performed for all users of~~ printed by the monitored image output device; and

automatically storing the total page count information in association with the identifying information in a database.

2. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

generating the electronic mail message by the monitored image output device; and transmitting the electronic mail message over the Internet using the Internet protocol.

3. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the monitored image output device is one of a copier and a printer.

4. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the step of automatically extracting identifying information comprises:

extracting a device identifier of the monitored image output device;

extracting model information of the monitored image output device; and
extracting device type information of the monitored image output device.

5. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, wherein the ~~storing~~ extracting step further comprises:

~~storing at least one of a total number of pages printed and~~ extracting a total number of pages printed since a last report.

6. (Currently Amended) A system, comprising:

a computer comprising a processor configured (1) to receive an electronic mail message transmitted using an Internet protocol, the electronic mail message comprising information related to usage of a monitored image output device, (2) to extract, automatically, identifying information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message, (3) to extract, automatically, total page count information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message, the total page count information indicating the total number of pages printed by being cumulative over all jobs performed for all users of the monitored image output device, and (4) to store, automatically, the total page count information in association with the identifying information in a database associated with the computer.

7. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, further comprising:

the monitored image output device configured to generate the electronic mail message and to transmit the electronic mail message comprising information related to the usage of the monitored image output device over the Internet to the computer using the Internet protocol.

8. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the monitored image output device is one of a copier and a printer.

9. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the computer is configured to extract a device identifier of the monitored image output device, to extract model information of the monitored image output device, and to extract device type information of the monitored image output device.

10. (Currently Amended) The system of claim 6, wherein the computer is configured to ~~extract store at least one of a total number of pages printed and~~ a total number of pages printed since a last report in the memory.

11. (Currently Amended) A computer program product including a computer readable medium for monitoring usage of a monitored image output device, comprising:

instructions for receiving an electronic mail message transmitted using an Internet protocol, the electronic mail message comprising information related to usage of the monitored image output device;

instructions for automatically extracting identifying information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message;

instructions for automatically extracting total page count information of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message, the total page count information ~~being cumulative over all jobs performed for all users of~~ indicating the total number of pages printed by the monitored image output device; and

instructions for automatically storing the total page count information in association with the identifying information in a database.

12. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, further comprising:

instructions for generating the electronic mail message by the monitored image output device; and

instructions for transmitting the electronic mail message over the Internet using the Internet protocol.

13. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the monitored image output device is one of a copier and a printer.

14. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the instructions for automatically extracting identifying information comprise:

instructions for extracting a device identifier of the monitored image output device;

instructions for extracting model information of the monitored image output device;

and

instructions for extracting device type information of the monitored image output device.

15. (Currently Amended) The computer program product of claim 11, wherein the instructions for ~~storing~~ extracting comprise:

instructions for ~~storing at least one of a total number of pages printed and a~~ extracting a total number of pages printed since a last report.

16. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically extracting information of a total number of jobs performed ~~of~~ by the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message.

17. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically extracting information of capabilities of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message.

18. (Currently Amended) The method of claim 1, further comprising:

automatically extracting information of a total number of jams of the monitored image output device from the electronic mail message.